

Peking. China
Oct. 4, 1924.

My Best Friend -

I do want to get off one more note to you before we leave this place. We go tomorrow afternoon and will be travelling off & on (after a three days stop in Nanking) for almost two weeks, chugging along up the river behind a launch - Can't you imagine us?

I received a letter last week in which you confessed to having exploded, and hoped perhaps to be rid of the family. I'll bet they didn't go tho. Too soft a berth. As Joe would say - Swift kicks would do the business.

Well - you have been teaching school a whole month now and are glorying in a salary check. I remember the grand old fishing. Doug & I are stony broke now, in fact we are indulging in the privilege of overdrawing at 8%. This has been an expensive six weeks & besides that we have had to order a months supply of groceries ahead to take up the river with us. I'll be glad to settle down and live the quiet cheap life in Kuchowfu. We don't know just what is ahead of us. Trains are very much disconnected up here on account of troop movements. There is going to be some real fighting up around Peking - once they get started - We are going

to take a train tomorrow afternoon for
Lientani - ordinarily a trip of three hours,
now it takes them ten hours or so because
they side track all the time. We are hoping
it won't get in till pretty near morning and
we can thus avoid a hotel bill. Nat sleeps
very well on the train provided we can find
space to stretch her out. Her food is the
biggest problem. We don't dare get things from
the diner on the train, for they are too dirty
and we have known many people to get
dysentery that way. So we have to take things
along. Canned milk is easy. We just have
to add it to boiling water. Then I take along pumms
and sometimes use my little pressure stone
to cook her oatmeal & coddle her egg.
Oh! you have to be so blooming careful
in China - I live in constant fear of dysentery
all the time - One of us has to be
watching Phyllis every minute of the
day, just keeping things out of her mouth.
I have had such a patient, careful old
body for my amah this month. I hate
to go away and leave her behind. She
has such a nice way with a baby, and
~~doesn't~~ ^{doesn't} give in to her as many of them do.
I have just had a letter from Pearl
telling us about the two people we had
engaged as servants. You know I had
her last winter and liked her so much.
Just young - but cute and clean and
willing to learn. Her husband was to be

my cook. Now it seems that he had
a fever this summer and contracted
syphilis - and is in a very dangerous stage
at present - I mean dangerous to other people.
It is almost a sure bet that he has
given it to his wife - Anyhow I won't
have let her touch him. It just makes
me sick for they were both such good
servants. Now I'll have to train in some
green country woman probably - We may
take him for our gardener & dope him up
for a couple years till he is safe to work.
I haven't time to write any more.
There are a million things still to be
packed - I'll try & write again on the
river.

These doilies are the last. little one
50¢ - big \$1.50--.

Please mail this letter for me will
you - They have lost track of my address.

I love you
Grace

IMPERIAL HOTEL, TIENTSIN

商英
有裕
限中
公飯
司店

TELEPHONE NO. 260 S.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS:
"HOTELIMP."

CODES:
A 1, BENTLEY'S,
A. B. C. 5TH EDITION.

NEAREST TO RAILWAY STATION.
AT CORNER RUE DE FRANCE AND QUAI DE FRANCE.

MODERN SANITATION. STEAMHEATING
THROUGHOUT. REASONABLE RATES.

Tientsin, Oct. 6, 1924

NORTH CHINA.

A. E. TIPPER,
CHAIRMAN
A. MILDNER,
MANAGER.

Dear Mother,

Because of the war in the north the train service is rotten, but our "guardian angel" as always is still with us and we made Tientsin from Peking last night in five hours instead of three or three and a half. Not bad at all. But ordinarily the "Blue Express" runs from Peking to Hankow. This fine train is now made up at Tientsin so we had to telephone for reservations (thru the American Express Co.) from Peking.

We arrived at this fine hotel, the cheapest safe foreign hotel, last night at 10 P.M.

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Tientsin, _____ 192

HGRTH CHINA.

A. E. TIPPER,

CHAIRMAN

A. MILDNER,

MANAGER.

It costs us \$14 Mex. for the two of us for one day. Pretty steep for poor missionaries, but no help for it. We will leave Tientsin at 1 o'clock this afternoon. If all goes well we should arrive in Hanking tomorrow evening. We will stay there three days to get our stuff loaded on a boat, and then start up river for Luchowfu.

We are anxious to get settled for once in our married life; and I want to get to work now that I have been rejuvenated medically at P. U. M. C. I feel much better

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Tientsin, 192

HORTH CHINA.

A. E. TIPPER,
CHAIRMAN
A. MILDNER,
MANAGER.

fitted to tackle the ~~rest~~ diseases
of China since the two scholarship
courses I have just had in Peking.

We are all tip top. Grace
has a few furuncles in her right ear
which have been causing her some
trouble; but they are clearing up under
treatment. The baby is running
all around, talks quite a bit (all
the time in fact) and weighs $25\frac{1}{2}$
lbs, not bad for 16 months old.

Our baggage is quite pretentious.
We have a trunk, two large coys (wicker
suitcases about 2 ~~times~~ times larger than a suit case)
checked, and are carrying with us

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Tientsin, 192

NORTH CHINA.

A. E. TIPPER,
CHAIRMAN
A. MILDNER,
MANAGER.

two hand bags, 2 large boxes, a new micro-
scope for the hospital, a large lunch basket
and a small lunch basket, and last
but not least a walking baby. We can
have this much baggage because
coolies at every station carry it for
us.

I am taking a new microscope, a cell
for making Dakin's solution electrically
from NaCl , and three 12 oz bottles of a typhoid
Para A, & Para B suspension which I
made at P. M. M. C. for running our
Wedal tests, and three test tubes of
the two Para A, B, & Bac. Typhosia for future
work at the Zuckowfu Hospital. I also
want to acquire some guinea pigs at

Ranking if possible.

Now I must hurry & eat lunch
before train time. Will write to
you on the train if Phyllis Ann
will let me.

Love to all,

Douglas.

P.S. I had to get permission from my
bank to get a month's salary over-
draft ~~was~~ in order to get by this
first hard year with the house
furnishing. The overdraft is good only
until Dec. 1st, 1924. We also had to buy
groceries to last till spring too, you know.
So from now on we are going to scratch hard
to make ends meet. But we are having a good time
doing it and all always turns out alright.



CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY'S

S.S. On the way to Wuhu.

Oct. 17, 1924.

Dear folks,

I was so busy in
Nanking getting all the
goods together and loaded
onto a sailboat and
getting a permit thru
the American Consulate
and the Chinese Office of
Foreign Affairs for passing
these goods thru port
customs duty-free, that
I had no time to write
letters. But last night
the sailboat got off with

a good wind and this morning we left the wharf at Hankow on this comfortable English river boat at 9 o'clock.

We have two servants, a man and his wife. He is to do our washing, carrying of water (since we have no water system and water must be drawn from a well and ~~trucked~~ hauled up to the bathroom, or into the kitchen, etc) and do the house cleaning, and other outside jobs. The woman is the amah.

He is going with our goods to take care of them, and will arrive in Tsuchow in a week or two depending on the wind. The amah is traveling with us. We

will get there in three days. Miss Bertha Parke, who is located at Chuchow (Dr. Osgood's station) is with us. She is going up to Tsuchowfu to study Miss Major's women's work before starting the same kind of work at Chuchow.

We are to have lots of company at Tsuchow in the next few weeks. Miss Walker (secretary & stenographer for the mission office) is coming up with the Burches in a week or ten days; she to visit and the Burches on the survey. In two weeks Mr. & Mrs. Edwin Marx, the

mission secretary, and also
coming up on business.
Miss Parks will return
with them.

Grace & P. A. and I are
stopping with the Ploppers
at Wuhu, over night.
Miss Parks will stay
with Miss Cammie Gray.

We have to pick up
six boxes of groceries at
Wuhu, which we ordered
from Shanghai. These we
will take on the launch
with us to Tsuchowfu.
We can get goods shipped
to Wuhu without trouble,
but usually some one comes
down there to bring them up
to Tsuchowfu.



CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY'S

S.S. "Pó Yang"

Day before yesterday it was unbearably hot, and all of a sudden, while we were at Dr. Wilmo's playing Rook, the wind came up and the rain poured down, and it is the damp, chilling cold that goes thru you. So we are glad to stay indoors and write letters.

I sent you a letter from Tientsin. We got on the Blue Express at 2 P.M. of the afternoon of the day I wrote you last, and came thru without anything

worthy of mentioning.

We have been in Hanking nine days, again living with the Sarvices but eating about half of our meals out. We have been "invited & dined" in great shape. We had dinner with Miss Kelly, the Whitmots, the Prins, Miss Walker & Miss Allen, the Porters, and several teas.

The Sarvices also had two dinner parties for us while we were there, at one inviting the Pryors (whom I knew at Eugene, Oreg.) and at another the Rotherburgers.

B.P.B.

(who are touring our mission stations of the world as representatives of the Executive committee. They are from Springfield, Ill.) and a Mr. & Mrs. Chen. (He is head of the Government University at Peking and just recently came to Hanking to get married. His father is the wealthy Carpenter whose shop made all of our furniture. This carpenter has a large family and all have been educated in America.)

The present war doesn't

bother the foreigners much.
They are all well protected
in Shanghai within a
neutral zone and by gun
boats on the river. Now
the war is over at Shanghai
and the troops there will
soon be transported North
to that battle line.

The only danger we
may have in Anhwei is
a possible recurrence of
bandit raids because
most of the soldiers are
at war; but so far banditry
has not increased much
anywhere.

Will write more later,

Love,

Douglas.

P.S. Received papa's
letter at Shanghai.
Haven't had time to
read the newspaper
clipping yet.

Luchowfu - Anhwei
October 22, 1924

Dear Mother Corpron -

This is the first letter I have dated at Luchow. Seems sort of nice to really feel we are here.

We received a letter from you yesterday asking about that \$25 check for the third time. Its a dirty shame you have wondered about it so long. I'll bet you'll say you feel like never sending us any more. I never dreamed Doug had forgotten to mention it, or I should have punched him up long ago. I have him started on your material for your paper tonight. Between us we ought to be able to help you a little.

Before I forget it. send on the aluminum P. D. Q. we are ready to move into our house tomorrow and I have no tea kettle!! or several other necessary things. Be sure to send me a separated list of the pieces & prices for a couple of the things are for Mrs. Sarris. If there would be any way for you to add the pan for angel food cake she would be pleased to piece. She has the funnel to fit but one of her cooks took the pan along when she fired him. But if it means too much delay never mind for I want my things!!

I am giving Doug inspirations for his letter about the women. I'll see if I can add a bit too. In the first place. Your title really does not fit. Perhaps two hundred years from now we can begin to talk about the women of this stolid land as being freed from their shackles a bit. So far as we can tell now (and we have seen a good bit of China this summer) most women run their homes and care for their children just as they did in the time of Confucius. When you say "The woman of China", this is what I see. A woman with bared breasts sitting by the roadside in front of her mud house a tiny baby in her arms nursing at one side, and frequently you see the next one in line standing beside her helping herself on the other side. Her dress is of the cheapest cotton, her feet are apt to be bound. Her hair is smooth + black + shiny. Along the coast and near foreign settlements foot binding is decreasing. But once you get away from outside influence you can still see tiny children with bound feet. We saw them up north this summer, and folks say as you go west into the interior they still are binding every where. never heard of anything else. It goes by districts. In some towns all do it. Others have not the custom. The farmer women do not do it so much for they have to work to keep from starving, hard work in the fields they do. As to the

city women that live in enclosed court yards and the rich well to do ones that suffer the most from this curse.

Then the mothers of China! how they do suffer. Cammie Gray at Wuhu gets out into the country a lot and she was telling Bertha Park & I about the horrible methods of a Chinese mid wife. The woman is placed on a tub and the neighbors & mid wives stand behind & pound her on the back & belly and when the baby comes it often has a bad fall and sometimes is of course killed. If it is a girl they chuck it under the bed and don't try to make it breathe - unless they happen to want it. Then the mother suffers in the bitter cold winters - often watching her babies die because of the cold and if there is flood or famine they die for lack of food. Also they die from a multitude of diseases, none of which the Chinese have any way of curing, dysentery, small pox, scarlet fever. all take away hundreds of little folks every year.

Rev. Mr. D'Olive who lived in the same boarding house with me in Peking told of an old amah of theirs who had had twenty seven children before she was forty five years old. Then her husband died. She says, "Why! I would have had many more if he had not died." The children many of them died of cold & hunger. Now she has some older married children and one young son who is going to school & he helps take care of her. Sounds fishy doesn't it - but they guarantee it for the truth.

I agree with you that the people in the church have not money enough to buy those expensive bags or linens. It's the women on Nat Hill that would have the taste & the money for such things. Too bad Doug ever bothered you with them. Yes. I'd surely say - go ahead & sell them for what you can get. We have now learned that most folks here who send things home wait until they have the money advanced for whatever the folks in America want, then they go ahead and buy, and there is no risk. If you have one of the pretty blue bags left mail it to Florence Ann Clough at Wells, Minn. I owe her some money for some cretonne she sent me and I know she'd be glad to have one of the bags on that account.

Here's another story or so about the women. I got well acquainted with Mrs. Davis' old amah this summer for she took care of Nat a lot. She has had a hard lot. She was a country girl sold to a man much older than she when she was only thirteen, she tells of the wedding - how ashamed she was for she had not proper ~~own~~ ^{wedding} clothes for her family was too poor. She says she hid her face for three days while the celebration was going on. She was never happy with her husband. He beat her and treated her terribly. She had ten children and eight of them died when very little. Now when she is

helping us bathe + dress our babies, tears come into her eyes and she says - "Oh, if I had only known how to care for my babies, they would not all have died." She is the head of the family now. Sends money home to her worthless old husband and bathes in the family white bath tub. When her country cousins come in to see her, she sneaks them in too.

Of course these women I have mentioned are poor country women, but that is what China is primarily, nine tenths of her women certainly are still in that class - of course every town has a few rich families of refined people and they as a rule are anxious to learn new ways. I saw an interesting group yesterday over at Wenona Wilkinson's girls' school. The buildings are not high, just typical brick Chinese one story rooms. But the halls + court yards are full of chattering, black pig tailed, happy school girls, all so clean and ~~happy~~^{bright} looking. Wenona piloted us all about to see their many class rooms, dining room etc. I remember the bed rooms most of all with their rows of white beds, each one covered with a spotless bed spread and a carefully folded extra blanket at the back side. We met two of her teachers, young college graduates from Ginling. They speak English well and have a very dainty, refined appearance. One of them is engaged to a Mr. Chen, a tall up standing boy, a graduate of Nanking University and a Lushan boy. He was going to America this fall. was at Shanghai ready to sail but was held back by this new

immigration law that Japan is making such a kick about. It certainly seems a shame to deprive such a boy of his chance. He will probably get married this winter and forget about it.

I am sorry we have not sent you a picture. We have tried so many times this summer - but she is too wiggly. Or else the sun is too bright. We have a film now of Doug + Phyllis together that is rather good, as soon as we get some prints of it we'll send it on. Then we mean to try to get some good prints of her tomorrow or next day. She has a cute new hat and coat that I'd like her picture in. We are just so engrossed trying to get our belongings sorted out into their proper places that we can't think of anything else.

I was so worried about Phyllis last week. she got sick coming up on the boat, I suppose because her food was different and she was constipated somewhat. Today is the first time she has been exactly herself, since we have been here. She ran a high temperature for several days, couldn't eat, vomited several times. We gave her enemas and finally got her temp down. I suppose I'll get used to the idea some day, but it just worries me as to have her sick that I can't do anything in the line of work myself.

Well I'll leave the rest for Doug to tell
PS Doug is so thrilled over his work at the hospital that I can't get him started on your letter. I'll send mine Grace on & he will come soon with a film

LUCHOWFU CHRISTIAN HOSPITAL

HOFEI

ANWHEI

CHINA

October 23rd, 1924

Dearest Mother,

My we are happy to be at last in the place which is to be our home for some time to come. We arrived here from Wuhu last Sunday afternoon without adventure along the way, and on schedule time. The weather was ideal almost all of the way and much of the time we all rode up on top of the flat-roofed tow-boat. There we watched the passing panorama of countryside, took setting-up exercises, or played catch with a stick of fire wood. When we docked at Luchowfu we found almost all of the foreigners of the station there to greet us and help to get our things off. We came up to the Vierling home where we have been housed until our goods shall arrive and be moved to our new house. The boat with our things came in at five o'clock this evening, in good shape and record time (only 7 days). Tomorrow we will have coolies carry the 100 pieces up and put them in OUR OWN HOUSE. My it will be a GRAND AND GLORIOUS FEELING to be finally settled in some place where you can leave them for more than a few months or more. And such a nice house as Dr. Vierling has worked hard to have ready for us. We will tell you more about it after we have our things in place.

I started work at the Hospital at 8 o'clock of the morning after we arrived, and have already started some of the work that I learned how to do well at Peking. At present my days schedule is something like this:- Hospital chapel (in one of the wards or the hospital chapel) at 8 A.M., ward rounds 8:15 to 9 A.M., study with the private Chinese teacher ~~at~~ 9 to 10 A.M., then work in the out-patient clinic from 10 to 12 A.M (my chief duty now being to supervise the lab. and gradually to increase its efficiency and teach the Chinese nurse there new duties from time to time, until we can do many necessary tests which we are now unable to do.)(There are many things that one must do for himself out here in the interior of China that are unnecessary in a Western city. For instance I wanted to run Widal tests and found no lcc. pipetts this side of Shanghai, so I took a piece of glass tubing, a blow-torch, some paraffine, some acid, and a graduated burette and made a lcc. pipette graduated in tenths of a cc. I wanted a test-tube rack to hold 21 tubes in three rows, so I told the hospital carpenter what I wanted and he made it for me. I made my own typhoid, para A, and para B suspensions in Peking and brought them here in my hand bag, so now I'm fixed to do widal's. In the afternoon Grace and I study with the teacher from 2 to 4 o'clock. Grace also takes the 9 to 10 hour in the morning with me and then another hour on a special Housekeeping Course. I don't know how long she will be able to carry this much study

LUCHOWFU CHRISTIAN HOSPITAL

HOFEI

ANWHEI

CHINA

because as soon as we get settled in our new home and get things running smoothly she and Mrs. Vierling want to work out a much needed department of dietetics in our hospital. Everything you have ever done or studied is useful on the mission field, and Grace's Home Economics course will fit in its place.

Have you seen my pictures in the last three World Calls? My name was attached to all but one in the Luchowfu Number (the one of Dr. Vierling's house). In the July number I had the one of Dr. Macklin and old Mr. Shi, and the one of the China Christian Mission convention with the report written by Jimmie MacCallum. In the August number I put in the one of the men fishing with their hands from tubs, taken in the pond in front of the Language School, Nanking. I'm too new in the work yet to write for the World Call but I'll do my bit with pictures. I haven't been taking any with my big camera recently for it takes money, of which I have none.

We have overdrawn our bank account \$250, with the guarantee of the Mission, which must be paid up by Dec. 1st. This is the way we have of borrowing money in China. This is because we are paying back to the Mission the two months salary advanced to us before we really got onto the field, and also because we are paying for our furniture at the rate of \$50 a month (over half paid for now), and because we have had to get \$100 worth of goods from Montgomery-Ward to start house-keeping with and some staple groceries, also because we have had to bring \$100 worth of groceries up from Shanghai with us to run us until Spring. But I think Grace and I know how to live within our means and with our budget be able to get clear by next June.

I finally found this letter so am putting it in. even tho it does duplicate in some places.
grau